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Docket No. ROPAK-P2712

Serial No. 09/834,528

Amendment to the Claims

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Claim 1 (Previously amended) Apparatus for providing a liquid-tight seal, including: a container having an upper edge defining an opening; and an injection-molded lid configured to cover said opening, said lid having a channel at its periphery, said channel configured to abut and form a liquid-tight seal with said upper edge of said container when said lid is assembled on said container, in which said channel includes an outer skirt and an inner skirt generally downwardly directed, and said outer skirt includes a lower portion spaced outwardly from said container upper edge and said inner skirt includes a lower portion spaced inwardly from said container upper edge to facilitate ready alignment and engagement of said lid on said container, said lower portion of said outer skirt including a removable tear strip, and corresponding tongue and groove members on said lid and said container to interfit with each other within said channel, said tongue member having a primary cross-sectional axis that is sloped outwardly with respect to the center of said container rather than being vertical.

Claim 2 (Previously amended) Apparatus for providing a liquid-tight seal, including: a container having an upper edge defining an opening; and an injection-molded lid configured to cover said opening, said lid having a channel at its periphery, said channel configured to abut and form a liquid-tight seal with said upper edge of said container when said lid is assembled on said container, in which said container upper edge is tapered from a relatively thinner dimension to a relatively thicker dimension moving in

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from said upper edge toward a bottom portion of said container, and said channel includes a corresponding tapered section, said tapering relationship providing contacting and sealing engagement between said lid and said container on both an inner contact surface and an outer contact surface of said upper edge, said channel including an outer skirt having an annular shoulder formed therein, said shoulder extending further outwardly than an uppermost portion of said lid, said shoulder positioned between an engaging detent on said skirt and said uppermost portion of said lid.

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Claim 3 (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2, in which said channel also sealingly contacts a transition surface on said container upper edge between said inner contact surface and said outer contact surface, when said lid and said container are assembled with each other.

Claim 4 (Previously amended) Apparatus for providing a liquid-tight seal, including: a container having an upper edge defining an opening; and an injection-molded lid configured to cover said opening, said lid having a generally inverted V-shaped channel at its periphery, said channel configured to abut and form a liquid-tight seal with said upper edge of said container when said lid is assembled on said container, said assembly between said lid and said container not including any rotating threaded engagement, in which said channel on said lid is formed by an inner skirt and an outer skirt, both of which are generally downwardly directed, and said outer skirt includes a lower portion

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spaced outwardly from said container upper edge to facilitate engagement of said lid on said container, said liquid-tight seal including an inner contact surface of said channel extending toward the bottom of said container as least as far as an outer contact surface of said channel.

Claim 5 (Original) The apparatus of Claim 2 or Claim 3, including cooperating engagement detents on said lid and said container to hold said lid and said container in said liquid-tight sealing relationship.

6-13 (Withdrawn)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A container lid having a tapered channel at its periphery, said channel being in a generally inverted V-shape, said channel configured to abut and form a liquid-tight seal with an upper edge of a corresponding container when said lid is assembled on the container, said tapered channel providing contacting and sealing engagement between said lid and the container on both an inner contact surface and an outer contact surface of said channel, said inner contact surface of said channel extending toward the bottom of the container as least as far as said outer contact surface of said channel.

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Claim 15 (Original) The lid of Claim 14, including engagement detents on said lid to engage corresponding detents on the container, to hold said lid in said liquid-tight sealing relationship on the container.

Claim 16 (Previously amended) A lid having a generally inverted V-shaped cross section, both legs of said cross section configured to abut a corresponding container to thereby form a liquid-tight seal with the container.

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Claim 17 (Original) The lid of Claim 16, including inwardly directed engagement detents on the outermost of said legs to engage corresponding detents on the container, to hold said lid in said liquid-tight sealing relationship on the container.

Claim 18 (Previously amended) Apparatus for providing a liquid-tight seal, including: a container having an upper edge defining an opening; said upper edge constituting in cross section a generally vertical wedge member; said wedge member tapering in cross section from an uppermost point region of said upper edge to a wider region spaced away from said uppermost portion; and a lid configured to cover said opening, said lid having a correspondingly-shaped wedge receiving channel at its periphery, said correspondence between said wedge member and said channel forming a liquid-tight seal therebetween when said lid is assembled on said container, with substantially no deformation of said wedge receiving channel required for said assembly of said lid and container; said wedge

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member and said channel including an inner contact and an outer contact surface between
said lid and said container, said inner contact surface extending toward the bottom of the
container as least as far as said outer contact surface.

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